Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 23 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 24 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Thursday 22 Dec 2022 at 15:48 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Remaining unsettled with colder air over northern Scotland and milder air pushing up from the south, the milder air makes its way north with some snow turning to rain on Christmas Eve but colder air returns from Boxing day. Medium confidence about freezing level with lots of changes over the coming days.

Headline for Friday 23 Dec 2022: Dry with bright spells in the morning, cloudier afternoon with strengthening easterly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 23 Dec 2022

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Medium Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Dull	Cloudy	Cloudy	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Cloudy	Dull
Precipitation probability							
20%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	20%

Forecast for Friday 23 Dec 2022

Weather: A few wintry showers overnight for the Caithness and Sutherland hills and cloudy with fog patches in places. By day the fog will lift as the easterly winds strengthen, a few bright or sunny spells through the morning but turning increasingly cloudy from the south during the early evening and Glen Shiel seeing some light snow by mid evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80%, patches of cloud below the summits for more eastern ranges at times.

Low cloud and visibility: Generally good visibility throughout the day for all ranges but perhaps moderate later in the south as rain and snow approaches. Patchy cloud above 600m is likely through the day for ranges around Glen Affric and Ben Wyvis. Cloud lowering later in the evening with scattered cloud above 500m likely by late evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Friday 23 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	25/35 E	28/38 E	30/41 E	32/43 E	32/43 E	32/44 E	33/45 E	33/45 E	32/43 E
900	26/36 E	28/39 E	30/41 E	31/43 E	32/43 E	32/44 E	33/45 E	33/45 E	32/43 E
600	17/28 E	18/30 E	18/31 E	19/33 E	19/33 E	20/34 E	21/35 E	22/36 E	21/34 E
300	13/24 E	11/25 E	10/25 E	10/26 E	9/26 E	10/27 E	10/28 E	11/30 E	10/29 E
Glen	17/29 E	19/32 E	19/32 E	18/33 E	18/32 E	18/33 E	18/34 E	18/34 E	17/32 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-4/-12	-4/-13	-4/-14	-5/-14	-4/-14	-4/-14	-5/-14	-4/-14	-5/-14
900	-3/-11	-3/-12	-4/-13	-4/-13	-4/-13	-4/-13	-4/-14	-4/-13	-4/-13
600	-1/-7	-1/-7	-1/-8	-1/-8	-1/-8	-1/-8	-2/-9	-1/-8	-2/-9
300	1/-4	1/-4	0/-4	0/-4	1/-3	0/-4	0/-4	0/-4	0/-4
Glen	4/-1	3/-2	3/-2	3/-3	4/-2	3/-2	3/-2	3/-2	3/-2
Freezing Level*	500m	300m	300m	300m	300m	300m	200m	300m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Strengthening easterly winds will add to the wind chill and it will feel bitterly cold near the summits of the munros, note freezing level around 300m during the day.

Forecast for Saturday 24 Dec 2022

Weather: Outbreaks of snow turning gradually to sleet, as freezing level rises from 400m to 1000m during the day. Outbreaks heavier in the morning, especially around the Cuillin, turning light and patchy in the afternoon, perhaps some drier periods too especially for Skye.

Maximum wind: Southeasterly 15-20mph gusting 30-35mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30% rising to 60%. Broken low cloud in association with outbreaks of snow and sleet.

Low cloud and visibility: Broken low cloud above 400m can be expected further south, the best chance of more scattered low cloud will be found further northwest towards Ullapool, some tops may clear altogether. The Caithness hills are likely to be quite cloudy all day. Visibility will be poor in heavier spells of snow but improving in drier periods and the best visibility can also be expected towards the Ben Assynt area.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 1 rising to 4 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 4 rising to 1 Celsius.
Freezing level: 400m rising to 1000m

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